

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01337 251353Z
ACTION AID-31

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-----260301Z 101985 /73
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3449

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 1337

DEPARTMENT PASS AID

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, LE
SUBJECT: CRS HOUSING PROGRAM

REF: (A) STATE 312971, (B) BEIRUT 1225, (C) STATE 062896

1. IN A LETTER DATED MARCH 22, CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES INFORMED US THAT THE GOL HAS APPROVED THE PROPOSED AID FUNDED PROJECTS OF "SHELTER NORTH" (\$172,857) AND "QALAMOUN" (\$67,800). SHELTER NORTH IS FOR THE REPAIR OF 534 HOUSES IN THREE CHRISTIANS TOWNS NEAR TRIPOLI: ACHACHE, ALMA, AND MAJDALAYYA. QALAMOUN IS A MUSLIM TOWN NEAR TRIPOLI AND THE PROJECT IS FOR THE REPAIR OF ABOUT 130 DWELLING UNITS (COPIES OF PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS BEING POUCHED TO USAID/W).

2. ACCORDING TO THE MARCH 22 LETTER, THE PROJECTS ARE PROCEEDING AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

CRS IS WORKING WITH THE NATIONAL CARITAS AND ITS LOCAL SECTORS IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECTS--SHELTER NORTH AND QALAMOUN AS WELL AS ALL FUTURE PROJECTS UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01337 251353Z

THE HOUSE REPAIR ASPECT OF THE GRANT.

IN THE TOWN ALMA (SHELTER NORTH) WHERE 40 FAMILIES HAVE NOW RETURNED, THE LOCAL COMMITTEE HAS BEGUN WORK WITH 30 HOMES WHICH NEED IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE. BOTH THE SURVEY FORMS AND THE NATIONAL CARITAS ENGINEER'S INSPECTIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. SINCE THE, THE ENGINEER IN CONJUNCTION WITH

THE CRS/CRITAS REPRESENTATIVE APPROVED CASH GRANTS OF
BETWEEN \$150 TO \$500 TO EACH OF THESE FAMILIES. ON
SATURDAY, MARCH 26, THE FIRST INSTALLMENTS WILL BE DISBURSED.

CONCERNING THE OTHERS, TWO SHELTER NORTH TOWNS MEJDALAYYA
AND ACHACHE AND THE MOSLEM QALAMOUN PROJECT, SURVEY FORMS
HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE LOCAL
COMMITTEES ARE PRESENTLY MEETING WITH THE CRS/CARITAS REPRESENTA-
TIVES TO RECEIVE THESE FORMS, CHOOSE THE FIRST 30 HOUSES IN EACH
COMMUNITY TO BEGIN WORK AND ARRANGE FOR THE CARITAS
ENGINEER TO UNDERTAKE THE HOUSE INSPECTIONS.

THESE INSPECTIONS SHOULD BEGIN WITHIN THE NEXT 2 WEEKS.

WE WOULD LIKE TO CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION THAT CRS HAS
BEEN CLOSELY INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT
AND HAS STUDIED AND KNOWS WELL ITS OPERATION AT BOTH THE LOCAL
AND NATIONAL LEVELS.

END QUOTE.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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